*This Crazy Field called Mathematics*  
  
This assignment should read like a journal. I will pose a question, and I want you to answer it before moving on to the next question. In order to receive all the points, you need to demonstrate that you spent time thinking about each question. (Your answers do not have to be long. They just need to be complete.)  
\*\*Note: I am having you read other people’s opinions. It doesn’t mean I agree with them or that you have to agree with them. I just found them thought provoking.  
  
**1.** **Do you think mathematics is discovered, invented, or both? Why?**  
[For our purposes, discovered means *to make known or visible*. That is, the idea was there. Someone just had to find it. Invented means *to produce for the first time through the use of the imagination or of ingenious thinking and experiment.*]

Do not work ahead yet.  
  
2. Read<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=why-math-works> and summarize the abstract.

3. The show Numb3rs had consultants from an Ivy League university. Watch [*http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFRTgr7MfWw*](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFRTgr7MfWw). Which viewpoint is shown in this clip? How do you know?  
  
4. After reading several people’s opinions, revisit the first question. **Do you think mathematics is discovered, invented, or both?** Give *specific* examples to back up your argument. [Your answer better have at least 5 quality sentences. It will probably take much more than a paragraph though to fully defend your position.]

Due Monday at the start of class:  
To earn an A: Your writing must be outstanding. Your prose must be clear, detailed, and grammatically correct.   
To earn a B: Your writing must be above average.   
To earn a C: Your writing is average. You understand the idea of the assignment at a basic level.